

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND

NEW YORK
SENATOR

RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 478
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205
202-224-4451

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
AGRICULTURE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

September 20, 2018

Mr. Ronald Batory
Administrator
Federal Railroad Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Batory,

I write in support of the application submitted by the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority for funding from the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Grant Program through the Federal Railroad Administration. This funding will be used to enhance the multi-modal capabilities of the New York and Ogdensburg Railway and the Port of Ogdensburg.

The Port of Ogdensburg is a vital and unique infrastructure asset in Northern New York. It is the only U.S. port on the St. Lawrence Seaway and one of the closest U.S. ports to Northern Europe, making it highly economical for ships to import and export from Ogdensburg. Additionally, the Port has a connection to the CSX rail system and is a designated Foreign Trade Zone. However, the Port is in need of upgrades and improvements to overcome some limitations of its design that hinder and restrict port operations as well as hold back the Port's growth potential and economic impact.

The requested funding will be used to purchase equipment that includes a railcar unloading conveyor, stockpiling conveyor, two front-end loaders, and a vessel loading conveyor. The equipment will improve the multi-modal capabilities of the railroad and port by enabling the facility to unload and stockpile bulk materials as well as improve vessel and truck loading. By maximizing the multi-modal features of these facilities, trucks will be removed from the highways, helping to improve the environment by reducing carbon emissions. Funding will enhance the economic vitality of the region by reducing transportation costs to industry and increasing the use of the port and railroad system.

I ask that you give this application your full consideration. If you have any questions, or desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff member, Laura Driscoll, at (202) 224-4451.

Sincerely,



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator